

## **This I Believe: I Believe in Turning Dreams to Reality.**

Langston Hughes once wrote, “Hold onto your dreams, for if dreams should die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly”. Without a dream to chase, there is absolutely nothing for anyone to live for. Yet, turning a dream into reality is never easy; do you dare to take a leap of faith to realize your dream?

I discovered a whole new world when I was five. That was the year I took up ballet, the very same year I found my passion and my dream. My dream is to become a remarkable dancer. It is not as far fetched as entering the Royal Academy of Dance in England or becoming part of a world-class dance troupe. I merely wanted to be good in what I loved most – dance.

Our dance school would hold a Grand Dance Gala every two years. Apart from the classic dance musical and the myriad of dance items, that year, there was a new section - a solo dance item as the opening act. It was the chance to stage my talent, the first step to realizing my dream.

Auditions were promptly held to select the best dancer. Many of us eagerly signed up. I was deeply motivated and determined to get into that role. Despite the long hours of dedication and practice, I never felt dance was a chore. I constantly pushed myself to the very day when I could stand on the stage as a true ballerina. I believed I could do it.

As the selection day crept closer, the tension was growing. As I observed other dancers, I began to doubt my ability. It struck me that the probability of my failure far outweighed my success. I seriously considered giving up then. Gradually, my mind was so focused on how I could outshine others that I forgot how important it was to just keep moving towards my dream. My insecurity was indirectly reflected in my dance. I stopped seeing the purpose of practicing over time or extra hard, if I was going to fail eventually.

My mother’s advice was my wake up call. She told me that there was always going to be another better dancer than myself; sometimes, it was not about the end but the means to the end that matters most.” I was ready to take my leap of faith again. I went through my auditions confidently.

Finally, my efforts paid off. The day had arrived when it was the time for me to shine. My dream was no longer a dream, it became a reality. Every late night rehearsal and every strenuous full day practice in exchange for this dance performance was worthwhile. This experience established my belief that dreams can be turned into reality if we dare to chase them.

The euphoria of success fueled my desire to continue dancing. My passion for dance has extended to various genres, such as Hip Hop and Contemporary dance. I have been dancing for 9 amazing years now. In a nutshell, “If you can dream it, you can do it”, so said Walt Disney. I said, “Believe in the magic of your dreams! Go on and take your leap of faith.” The sky is your limit.